

TOP

ASSESSMENT OF AGENT PERSONNEL

TRUE NAME: SCHOLZ, Arno AGE: 50 ADDRESS: Res: Hagenstr. 14, Berlin-Grunewald
Office: Bismarckplatz, Berlin-Grunewald

PROJECT: TPOASIS

POSITION IN PROJECT: Principal Agent - Publisher of PBBLOOM

SALARY: Subject receives neither a salary nor personal reimbursement from KUGOWN. Subject obtains financial support in the form of a subsidy to defray printing and distribution expenses for his publication. Pending more details regarding the project's actual expenses, financial support has been limited to 8,500 DMW per week.

CLEARANCE STATUS: Project file indicates TPOASIS was initiated in December 1948-January 1949. At that time project "EASTBOUND" was inaugurated by [] through []. (References, FRAN 4988 and FRP-42.) Subject was granted an operational clearance effective 20 December 1950, per WASH 24578.

RELATIONSHIP WITH AGENCY: While KUGOWN case officers maintain the usual cover of representing "private American interests," it should be assumed that Subject realizes a close association between KUFIRE and KUGOWN. Subject was originally introduced to KUGOWN through KUFIRE case officers.

BACKGROUND:

- A. In April 1949, [] was contacting Subject. At this initial period of the operation [] was acting as cut-out between [] and Subject. In July 1949, Camise was utilized as the TPOASIS indigenous cut-out. (Reference 150-BNCF, dated November 1950, summarizes project's development.)
- B. Subject was recruited due to his particular qualifications for mounting KUBARK propaganda operations; however, BOB also contacts Subject on a limited scale. Subject is considered valuable as a "casual" political informant, but reportedly, as a source for positive intelligence, he is quite unreliable. Subject is a self-made successful newspaper man, a vehement anti-Communist and anti-Nazi, and an influential publicist for the SPD party. During World War II, he managed to avoid military service and Nazi prosecution by periodically changing his residence; however, in Hannover he was imprisoned for a period of time.
- C. During his early schooling, Subject was pursuing a career of civil engineering, but due to a chance opportunity to associate himself with a publishing firm, his present career was launched. After various positions as a reporter, a printing-house office worker, and a publisher, he obtained a publishing license from British authorities and founded PBBLOOM in 1946.

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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

downgrade to secret
T-141 Subpart

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PERSONALITY & CHARACTER:

On security grounds, Subject has shown noticeable reticence in submitting sensitive information to CADRALM case officers regarding the covert distribution network. To acquire such information from Subject is a slow process; however, conditions are improving.

Subject is personally very amiable, sympathetic, and helpful, nevertheless, to obtain factual results, he often requires prodding and reminding. Subject, with his varied interests, operates from a very tight schedule, which might account for his apparent forgetfulness. Subject is extremely talkative, quite ego-centric, and inclined to exaggerate in conversation. He is continually "name-dropping," presents himself as an astute political figure, and while declaring himself politically independent, his views obviously reflect the SPD position.

Reportedly, Subject enjoys a full personal life with the necessary accouterments of fine food, good liquor, and female companionship. Subject supposedly suffers from an inferiority complex resulting from his inadequate formal schooling. It has been observed that Subject's close personal friends are individuals who share similar or have inferior social positions.

Due to Subject's overt position, his relationship with our office hardly places him in the "agent" category. The relationship more resembles a "marriage of convenience." Subject's ability to produce and distribute anti-Communist propaganda, and CADRALM's ability to contribute financial support is our common bond. Due to the newspaper presenting a militant SPD policy, and also tending to stress "sensational" news coverage, KUBARK interests "vis-avis" Subject have sometimes been at odds in the past. Subject requires close case officer control in this direction; however, during recent months, he has shown more restraint in presenting a blatant SPD position.

ALIAS: None known.

ASSOCIATION WITH OTHER PROJECTS AND/OR AGENTS:

Due primarily to his profession, Subject has a wide range of acquaintances and associates. His important relationships with other projects include:

- A. Subject utilizes TPEMBER facilities for acquiring specific articles and East Zone information.
- B. LCPAGAN's chief agent utilizes Subject's printing and East Zone distribution facilities. Subject also rents office space to the LCPAGAN agent in the PEBLOOM building.
- C. Subject's printing and distribution facilities are being utilized for special REDCAP operations with the East Zone.
- D. Subject has a limited association with UTLINEN, mainly as a dissident voice opposed to the project's methods and present leadership.

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LAST CORRESPONDENCE: EBB-4-2418, dated 20 January 1953

COMMENTS: CADRAINE has been maintaining all contacts with Subject in operational safe houses. With Subject being a public Berlin figure, indigenous public locations would be less satisfactory. PEBLOOM is an overt German publication, therefore the security aspects regarding PEBLOOM's publisher are quite difficult to assess. No attempt has been made to establish non-attributability of the source. Subject is endeavoring to increase his newspaper circulation, present the SPD political line, and increase his personal stature among the general German populace. The East Zone distribution apparatus of PEBLOOM is the covert organization, and Subject's security controls in respect to the net's structure and operations are quite impressive. Subject has been strongly attacked by the East Press due to his anti-Communist propaganda activities. In these attempts to expose Subject and his operations, it is apparent that East Zone allegations stem only from frustration and misinformation. To date, the distribution net's activities have not been interrupted or curtailed by breaches of security.

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